



Helping People Help Themselves

December 3 – December 16, 2010

\$1

# SPARE CHANGE

## NEWS

# Making The Jump

Carl Lewis talks  
to SCN about life  
beyond nine Olympic  
gold medals and  
his role as an  
FAO Goodwill  
Ambassador

- page 8

## PROJECT 50/50:

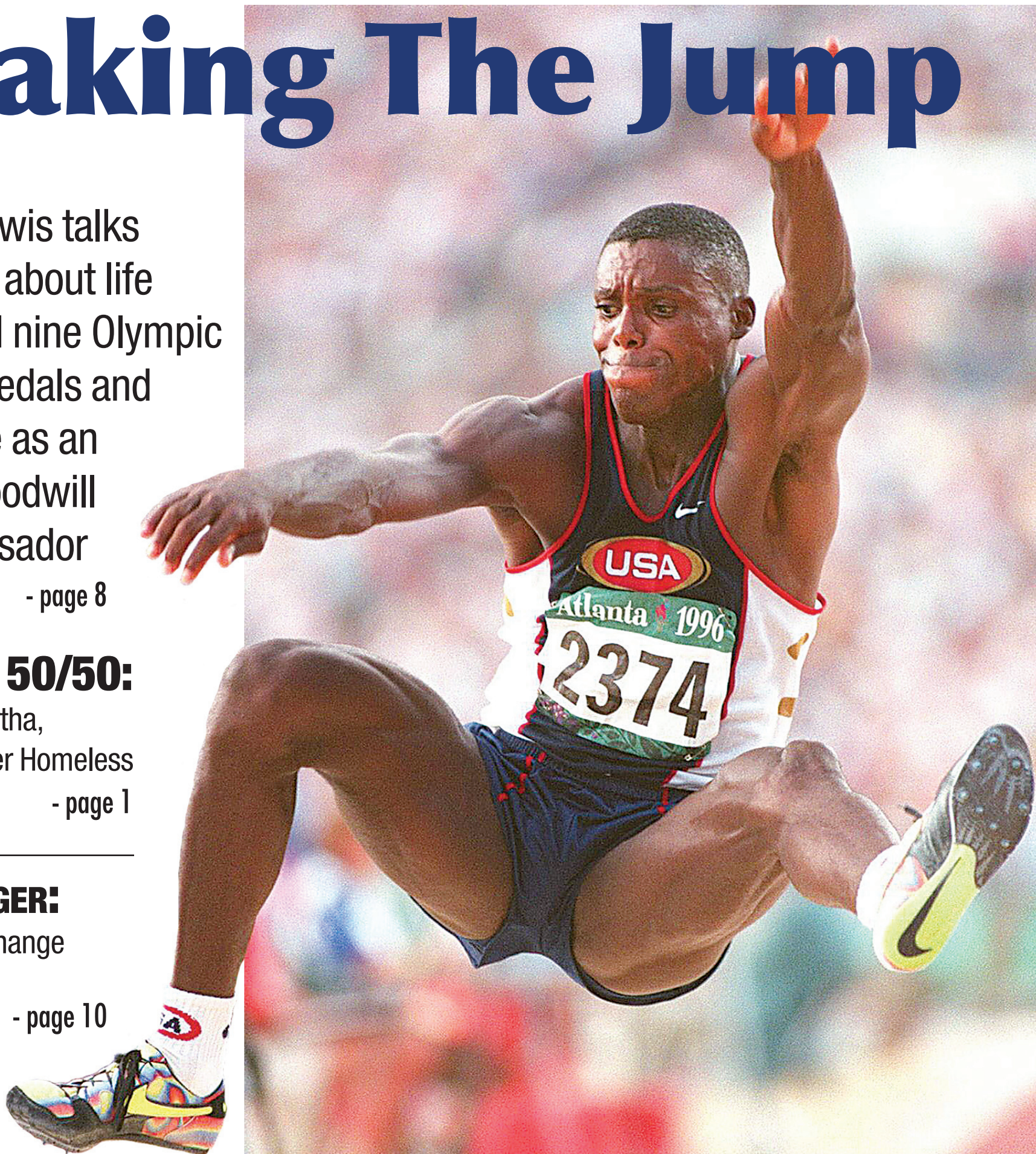
Call her Martha,  
Don't call her Homeless

- page 1

## GOLDFINGER:

My Spare Change  
News Story

- page 10



Your vendor buys this paper for 25¢ and keeps all the proceeds. Please purchase from vendors with blue badges only.



## Spare Change News

is published by the HOMELESS EMPOWERMENT PROJECT (HEP)

*Spare Change News*  
1151 Massachusetts Ave.  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
**Phone:** 617-497-1595  
**Fax:** 617-868-0767  
*Spare Change News Worcester*  
301 Pleasant St.  
Worcester, MA 01609  
**Phone:** 508-754-7793  
**E-mail:**  
editor@sparechangenews.net  
director@sparechangenews.net  
**Website:**  
www.sparechangenews.net  
www.greaterworcesterhomeless.org

### HEP ADMINISTRATION

**Executive Director**  
David J. Jefferson

**Board President**  
James Shearer

**Treasurer**  
Chris McKnett

**Co-Clerks**  
Emma Erikson  
Erik Paulson

**Board Members**  
Cheryl Jordan  
Samuel Weems  
Joseph MacDonald  
Margery Furman  
Johnny Nguyen  
Michelle Ronayne  
Norman Watne  
Kristen Caretta  
Michael Morisy  
Marcia Benway

**Worcester Manager**  
Bob Flanagan

**Editor in Chief**  
Adam Sennott

**Poetry Editor**  
Marc D. Goldfinger

**Graphic Designer**  
Brendan Bernard

**Puzzle Editor**  
Samuel Weems

**Editorial Assistant**  
Alison Clark  
Chalkey Horenstein

**Contributing Writers**  
Douglas Bishop  
Jacques Fleury  
Marc D. Goldfinger  
Shay Kelley  
Adam Sennott  
James Shearer  
Michael Simpson  
Robert Sondak

**Vendor Supervisors**  
Norman Watne  
Gary Gilreath  
Charles Stallings

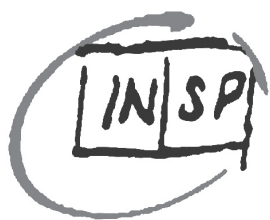
**Advertising Representative**  
Debbie Clarke

**Contributing Artist**  
Kevin Botelho  
Gary Gagne

**Contributing Photographer**  
Shay Kelley  
Norman Watne



**North American Street Newspaper Association**  
www.street-papers.org



## Vision & Mission

*Spare Change News* was founded in 1992 by a group of homeless people and a member of Boston Jobs with Peace. *Spare Change* is published by the nonprofit organization The Homeless Empowerment Project (HEP).

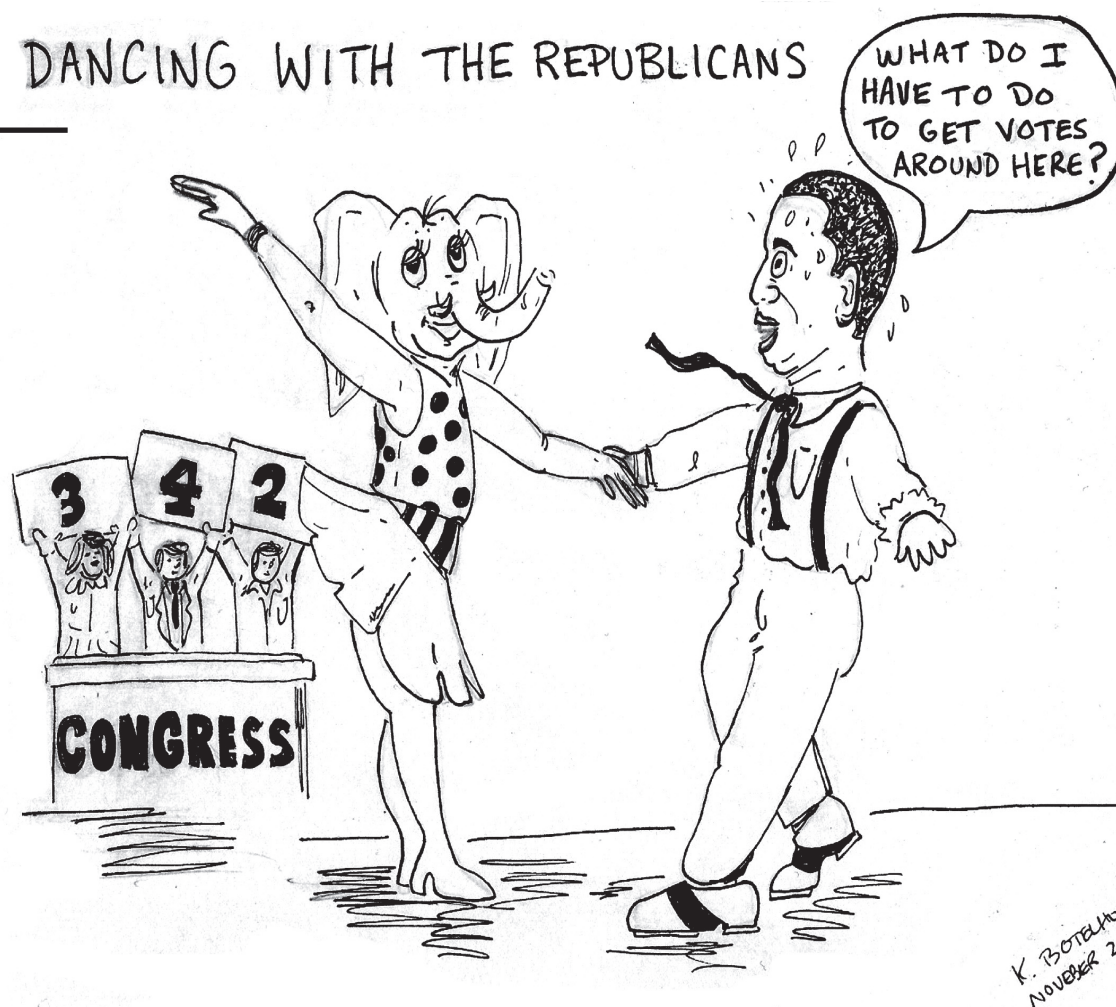
### SPARE CHANGE'S GOAL:

"To present, by our own example, that homeless and economically disadvantaged people, with the proper resources, empowerment, opportunity, and encouragement are capable of creating change for ourselves in society."

### HEP'S OBJECTIVES:

To empower the economically disadvantaged in Greater Boston through self-employment, skill development and self-expression. To create forums, including those of independent media in order to reshape public perception of poverty and homelessness.

## DANCING WITH THE REPUBLICANS



## Project 50/50: Seeing the Big Picture

Shay Kelley  
Project 50/50

Maybe it's because I'm homeless, or maybe it's because I'm usually found in places where homeless people are hanging out, but I was really uncomfortable at the Country Club. The people sitting around the table full of crystal glasses were acutely aware of my lifestyle, and for some reason, the man next to me really wanted to talk about his understanding of homelessness. He is obviously well educated, and I found out later that he's a medical doctor. He is heavily involved in politics, and he likes to have politically charged conversations. He also just entered his midlife crisis, and I think he's battling a feeling of self importance as it clashes with a strong sense of self-loathing. He's under the impression that wisdom comes with age, (a common fallacy that comforts those over the age of 37) and therefore thinks that I am 'naïve' and idealistic. I'll agree with the idealistic part of it but I am far from naïve.

He told his mother a story of snapping a picture of a homeless man in the city once. He said that the homeless man got up and confronted him, and said 'how dare you take my picture, you better pay me for that!' I think the story would have ended there, as some sort of sleazy dinner time tale in which everyone laughed at the sheer awkwardness of telling that story while sitting around a table full of fine china. Everyone did laugh, and I glared. He drew in his breath as my friend defended the homeless man. "That's all he has!" she said indignantly. He was poised to create himself a saint as he practically interrupted her to explain that he realized now that what he did was rude, because that may be the only way for that man to make money. I glared.

I firmly asked a question. "How would you feel if you had just sat down in your recliner to read your newspaper and someone walked up to the living room window and snapped a picture of you in your bathrobe?" The man stopped chewing his forkful of turkey to stare at me. I continued. "Would you get up to protest? Would you expect an explanation? An introduction? Something?"

His mother snickered as he tried to save face. "Well.. yeah.. I know. He's not a zoo animal."

I rolled my eyes as he went on to discuss how people should try to empathize. He told a story about being 19 and wanting to hike the Appalachian trail. He left with a 65 pound pack on his back and his mother dropped him off. He hiked for 2 weeks on the trail and met some interesting people, but he likened this to a 'homeless experience.' My friend interrupted him. "yeah, but you also researched it, and planned it, and figured out what you would need to survive." He missed her point and wholeheartedly agreed with her. "I was SMART about it! You're damn right." He went on to explain that eventually he ran out of supplies. His mother picked up the story. "He called me saying that the pack was hurting his kidneys and that he only had 17 cents left."

I wanted to throw up as I listened to this 'tragic tale' of 'hardship' from this spoiled rich-kid-all-grown-up. He wrapped up his story. "I gave that 17 cents to someone on the street right before I got on the bus going home, because I suddenly knew what it was like. I know how it feels to be homeless!! I ran out of supplies!!"

"And then you quit." I stated. My friend laughed. "And went HOME." I finished.



# Saturday's/Sunday's Bread:

## Program offers free meals two days a week to Boston's homeless

Robert Sondak  
Spare Change News

Every Saturday and Sunday the homeless gather at The Church of St. John the Evangelist for a hot meal prepared by an experienced kitchen manager and volunteers knowledgeable in cooking.

Saturday's/Sunday's Bread was founded by a group of Boston clergy and concerned members of the community over two decades ago. This meals program serves about 90 to 115 members on Sundays, and 65 to 100 members on Saturdays year round.

Saturday's Bread opened its doors in March of 1983 at the Boston-based Church of All Nations. They served hot meals to 54 guests that first week, and continued to serve free nutritious hot meals once a week on Saturday to people that appeared at the church.

Two years later, in March of 1985, the program began to offer hot meals every Sunday at the Church of All Nations. They served hot meals to 111 guests that first Sunday.

Saturday's/Sunday's Bread has grown into a organization offering free hot food two days a week to Boston's poor and low-income. It has also evolved into a program serving a traditional American menu of pasta, chicken, and beef along with side dishes of hot vegetables and toss salads with bread.

According to Kitchen Executive Jordan, the meals program has grown over the past three decades by over

100 percent. This is partially due to the downturn in the economy along with major blue-collar job losses throughout the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The program offers a different menu for each meal.

"We utilize a cyclical meal program that helps us to prepare the menu in advance," said Jordan. "We buy food based on what is available that season."

Kitchen Executive Jordan also spoke about the relationship that this volunteer-based food organization has created with its members.

"The members have been very gracious of our work," said Jordan. "The members see that we are committed in preparing simple and nutritious hot meals."

Over the past decade the organization has undergone a major relocation from the Church of All Nations, which dissolved its congregation, to the vibrant Church of St. John the Evangelist.

The Church of St. John the Evangelist has been supportive of the program, and has even given use of their lower level kitchen and dining room to serve the food.

"Local church groups volunteer on a regular basis following a specific schedule" said Kitchen Executive Jordan. "They represent one of our major core support groups."

Along with church groups, the food program volunteer base grown to include members of the Air Force, and colleges like Emmanuel and Wentworth Institute of Technology.

"Volunteers are a very important component," said Burt from Parkway United Methodist Church of Milton. "My church volunteers here regularly."

Volunteers form three teams make up the staff for each meal and work from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 pm. The largest team is the set up team that works directly with the Kitchen Executive in the dining room set up and breakdown. This team also functions as waiters. The waiters serve food from 2:30 pm to 3:30 pm.

The second team includes the door staff and the host who greets and seats all the members. The Kitchen Executive acts as the host. The third team and the most experienced is the kitchen team. The kitchen teams work with the Kitchen Executive in the preparation, cooking and plating of each dish to be served in the dining room. The Kitchen Executive has the final say weather to offer seconds.

"Hanscom Field sends people here all the time," said Bethany from the local Air Force base. "Someone in my deployment teams suggested that I volunteer in my time off."

Along with providing cooked meat like chicken and beef, Saturday's/Sunday's Bread meals program also offers the homeless a vegetarian alternative. This volunteer-based organization buys its food from contributions from the Walk from Hunger and works with a corporate and philanthropic fundraiser Lael (Plunkett) Murphy.

This meals program also gets support from a church committee includ-

ing Old South Church, Holly Cross Cathedral-Boston, Oblate Community-Boston, Trinity Church, Union United Methodist Church, South End Neighborhood Group, St. John the Evangelist-Hingham, St-Stephen's-Boston and Society of St Margaret..

"The business community and churches support our program," said Kitchen Executive Jordan.

The food served at the last meal was a hot vegetarian entree including pasta with a meat-based tomato sauce along with a side salad. The salad included lettuce, sliced tomatoes, and onions. The salad was topped with a vignette dressing. The meal was accompanied with bread and butter, coffee, milk and cranberry/orange drink.

All the food was prepared by a kitchen assistant working under the direction of the kitchen executive. The pasta and tomato sauce along with the toss salad was prepared by the kitchen assistant working with a team of six volunteers including people from Parkway United Methodist Church and United Parish in Brookline.

"We try to be organized in our work," said Jordan. "We provide food for one hour a day to people in need in a helpful manner."

Said Alan, a member of Saturday's/Sunday's Bread about the hot meal and the location, "The food selection is always simple but very good."

Photos and story by  
Norman Watne  
Spare Change News

Earlier this month Veterans For Peace met on Boston Common for their annual Veterans Day Parade. According to their website, Veterans For Peace is an official Non-Governmental Organization and is comprised of veterans from wars including the Spanish Civil War, World War II, Vietnam, and the war in Iraq. For more information on Veterans For Piece visit,

[www.veteransforpeace.org](http://www.veteransforpeace.org)





# CALL HER MARTHA, *Don't call her Homeless*

Story and photo by Shay Kelley  
Project 50/50

The woman with no shoes. I'll call her Martha.

I've learned that there are innumerable photographers out there who say they do "homeless photography" and I completely agree with them. That's exactly what they do. And this image of the barefoot woman will fall under that category if I don't name her Martha.

People see an image of a faceless, destitute person in a gut wrenching position, and it churns up their insides for a second. As long as their eyes are on the image, their stomach twists and turns and they feel as though they may lose their lunch. Without a face, that person may be them.

But in the same instant, as they turn their eyes away to swallow the hard truth rising in their throat, they name the person. "Homeless." This drives a wall between the person in the portrait and the viewer. When the viewer lives in a house and works a 9 to 5, that word "homeless" may as well be the Great Wall of China. It's a completely foreign word with no similarities to their own life. There is no basis of comparison. They feel pity for this poor soul, but that is all. They may even pat themselves on the back for feeling sorry for our friend.

As the photographer, I failed when I didn't wake her up. I don't know why this woman is sleeping on the steps of the park with her sandals next to her and nothing more than a thin blanket as the sun sets and the temperature drops. I don't have a story that will destroy the wall, one brick at a time. I wish I did.

I was sitting next to a kid named Matt, and I watched him shiver as the daylight disappeared and he gave detailed descriptions of watching his friend get shot in the face during a New Orleans gang fight last week. He ran away that night, and wound up in the middle of this skate park in St. Louis. I was riveted, but as I listened to Matt, my eyes kept finding a resting spot on Martha's feet as she slept less than 10 feet away. Her feet have walked many miles without shoes. The temperature will be just above freezing tonight. I had seen her face as I descended the steps to talk to Matt, and she looked to be in her late 50's. My mind wandered



into her past. Who was this woman? Now I look at the image and I ask the same questions that you will if your eyes don't turn away too quickly. Drugs would get me through this type of life if they didn't get me there to begin with. Alcohol, crack, meth, heroine.... Anything that would numb the pain of some kind of trauma would also numb my feet to the sting of the rocks and the cold of the cement. How does she survive, and how does she make money? Is she a prostitute, or does she get the crap beat out of her by the men in her life? Maybe some version of both. Does she have an education, and does she know that there is a better life out there for her? Would she want a better life? Is she hopeful or is she on the brink of suicide? What does she pray for? Where is her family? How many people walked past her today without asking these questions?

Sitting so close to her, I told Matt that

this was bothering me. He raised his eyebrows as if to say "don't mess with her" and I stood up, placing a bag next to her that contained a few pairs of socks and some things that she might need. I suppressed my urge to wake her up and hug her, tell her that somebody loves her, and ask a million questions while I wash her feet. I am not naïve, and I'm aware that even if I had woke her up, it wouldn't have turned out the way I would hope. I can't fix it. But this woman is not unlike me. She is not so different. I am not more loved than she is.

My hope is that giving her a name will replace the title that the viewer wants to give her. Don't let your eyes walk past this picture with pity. Call her Martha, don't call her "homeless." The reality is that she is more than a stigma, and more than a stereotype. She is loved.

**I was sitting next to a kid named Matt, and I watched him shiver as the daylight disappeared and he gave detailed descriptions of watching his friend get shot in the face during a New Orleans gang fight last week.**



# The education of Marcus Camby

**Staff Writer**  
Street News Service

A former substitute teacher, the Trail Blazers standout talks about his mission to help improve children's lives.

Marcus Camby plays center for the Portland Trail Blazers basketball team. A 14-year NBA veteran who has played for the Los Angeles Clippers, Denver Nuggets, New York Knicks, and Toronto Raptors, Camby is renowned for his hard work and defensive capabilities, earning the league's defensive player of the year award in 2006-2007.

Camby is also highly regarded for his work off the court. He founded the Cambyland Foundation, which focuses on educational opportunities for youth, and has been honored widely for his community service work. As the Blazers prepare for the new season, Camby sat down with Street Roots at the Blazers practice facility in Tualatin to talk about education, history, and the work he does in the community.

**Jules Boykoff:** *You've done a lot of volunteer work and philanthropy around education. And your NBA.com profile says you would like to someday become an elementary school principal. How have you come to care so much about education? Have your own experiences as a student affected your views on education?*

**Marcus Camby:** I think so. You know I was an education major at the University of Massachusetts and part of my curriculum was substitute teaching, going into elementary schools. I substitute taught in Math, English, and Science, so I always took a liking to the younger generation. The old cliché is that "the children are our future" and I'm just trying to better as many kids' lives as possible while I'm still blessed to be able to do it. Growing up as a kid, one of my heroes was my high school principal. I liked how he was well liked by everyone in the student body. I liked how he carried himself. And I liked how he cared. So he was somebody I have tried to pattern myself after. He really got me into education.

**J.B.:** *Speaking of schools, a recent count found that there are more than 1,000 students in Portland Public Schools who are homeless. The Trail Blazers and sports in*

*general have been called symbols of hope for many people experiencing homelessness and poverty. Would you like to say anything directly to the homeless community in Portland?*

**M.C.:** I would say keep your head up, keep pushing yourself to better yourself and anything's possible. A majority of players in the NBA, I wouldn't say we were homeless, but we didn't have what we have now, and we were just lucky enough and blessed enough to come to have the blessings we have been receiving. But I can definitely relate. I grew up and it was tough. I grew up in the projects. It was gang-infested, drug-infested, and I was one of the very few to make it out of there, but I was able to keep my head right, keep my body clean, and got myself on the right path. So, just because you see us as NBA players, we weren't that far away from where you guys are at or where you guys are trying to go to right now. So, overall, I would just try to tell people to stay positive and try to keep clean.

**J.B.:** *Since joining the NBA you've started the Cambyland Foundation. What does this foundation do and why do you do it?*

**M.C.:** Like I said, I'm a big advocate of the kids and it's always geared toward the kids and it's also geared toward the homeless. Just to touch on the homeless part, when I was in Denver for six years, I partnered with Volunteers of America and on Thanksgiving Day I bought 1,000 meals for the homeless. And my wife and my kids and I went and served Thanksgiving meals and Christmas meals to the needy. It was therapeutic for me to give back and also therapeutic in that I can teach my younger kids the thought about giving back. My family and I have been blessed with so much that sometimes we need to take a step back and look at the outside world and see what's going on around us. So, my kids get a kick out of it — they love it. They actually look forward to it and can't wait for Thanksgiving to do it again, to go down there and serve people and my wife is looking forward to doing it again, too. And it's a great time for me. I feel that everyone should at the least have a nice hot meal on Thanksgiving Day and Christmas. Those are some of the things I do.

**CAMBY continued on page 6**





# The Man on the Bench: Episode I



By Jacques Fleury  
Spare Change News

## Gulp Fiction

"Let me tell you what I know; storm clouds are gonna blow. But have no fear, the sun will someday reappear. I know that life is

not always fair, but it's always sunrise somewhere." I was bouncing a ball in my hand and singing this song. It's a little ditty I concocted to help keep my spirits up.

It was just another ordinary cloudy day in Peabody Square when I first saw him. He came strutting into the park in his three piece suit, briefcase in hand and seemingly full of self importance; like he was the Mayor or something. He sat right across from me and it was obvious that he didn't want to make eye contact with me. I kept staring him down though, if just to bug the hell out of him. So anyways, he had his head buried down in his book and I could tell that he was doing his best to pretend to be engrossed in it. And so I kept bouncing my ball and singing while staring him down, if just to bug the hell out of him. Guys like him get on my damn nerves. You know the type. They practically run this country: straight white males; full of delusional self entitlement; usually wealthy, republican, suburban and their favorite pass time is looking down their noses at the rest of us while sucking on caviar and swigging champagne. As if God had set aside "special" rules

just for them. As if they're some type of superhuman, not meant to receive the same blows life often throws at us little people. I'm more like him than he knew. As a matter of fact, I used to be him.

You see, I went to school with him; BU law to be exact. I have to admit; back then even I was a privileged white hetero full of myself and thinking that the world revolved around me. What a pretentious person as I was. I always sat in the front row, always had an answer to every question the teacher threw at me. Hell, I was the teacher's pet. The teacher always smiled profusely in my direction. I was such a looker back then, she couldn't help herself. Yes, power can be a wonderful thing; that is, until that very power overpowers the one who possesses it.

I didn't mind their attention since I was and still am very secure in my masculinity. Anyways, I remember Mr. Designer Suit from class. He was always striving to answer more questions than I did, to get better grades than I did, to come to class looking better than I did. It was a sort of unspoken competition between us. Anyways, after law school and a recommendation from my favorite teach, I got a job at a very prestigious law firm called Shuster & Shuster Law Inc. It was a father and son firm ubiquitous in the Boston area. I got my own apartment in the highly exclusive and expensive Newbury Street. I had a blond haired blue eyed girlfriend who was a doctor and was doing her residency at Boston Medical. We lived together and planned to have children within

two years of our decision to cohabitate. Things couldn't be better. Life was so alive back then. The sun seemed to come out just for me; to take me to work in the morning and bring me back home in the evenings. Butterflies seemed to hover around my head and birds seemed to chirp esoteric songs only I was meant to hear and understand. My girl, Lola, was totally enamored with me, and me with her. There were late summer days when I would lie on my back with my Lola on our roof deck, under the stars and the moon with the wondrous fascination and carefree spirit of children, both of us thinking that life couldn't possibly get any better than that moment. That God must be smiling down on us. But as with life, there are no guarantees, and all good things eventually succumb to the often harsh realities of living. Things fall apart!!!

One day, as I rose with the sun beaming against my window announcing a shiny silver morning, I felt a sudden surge of joy, anticipation and energy. Now mind you, I'm not a morning person; I don't usual succumb to over exuberance until at least noon time. So, I thought the way I was feeling felt fairly peculiar to me. My energy level so high that my head began to spin around like a merry-go-round, I felt like leaves caught up in a wind infused upsweep of autumn; twirling around without a definite purpose and that was before I had my first cup of coffee. I got dressed and wolfed down my carnation instant breakfast, kissed my still sleeping Lola good bye, and took off. I remember rac-

ing down the highway and as trees and houses with white picket fences rushed passed me as I drove; my mind was racing right along with me. The sun was beating down so brightly, that I was starting to have trouble seeing, being that I wasn't wearing sunglasses, I started squinting. I also started to reflect about all the things I wanted to do with my life and regretting all the things that I haven't done yet. Then suddenly, as Scott Mc Kenszi's song "San Francisco" (if you're going to San Francisco, be sure to wear some flowers in your hair) came on the radio, it occurred to me. I've always known that I'm a flower child at heart, despite my upper middle class upbringing. I'd always wanted to go on a trip across the vast lands of America. And so, in a mad haze of rocketing oomph and impulsivity, I decided to skip work and go on a cross country trip to San Francisco. Crazy? Yes. But reason and logic was not my conduit at that point. I wouldn't get an explanation for my sudden irrational behavior until much later. But until then, I just went along for the ride and this is my story.

To Be Continued...

Jacques Fleury is a Poet, Author & Columnist. His book: "Sparks in the Dark: A Lighter Shade of Blue, A Poetic Memoir" about life in Haiti & America was featured in the Boston Globe. Sample or buy the book at: [www.lulu.com](http://www.lulu.com). 20% of proceeds will go to Haiti charity Partners in Health. For personal appearances or comments contact Jacques at: [haitianfirefly@gmail.com](mailto:haitianfirefly@gmail.com).

## CAMBY continued from page 5

And with the kids situation, I've developed a program called "Marcus' Mentors." Part of that program is that I get high school kids to come back and tutor elementary school kids and upon completion of the program they get money towards a college scholarship. Since I started the program in Denver I've had 15 to 18 kids go on to college through my program. It's all based on giving back. The older kids, the high school kids, giving back to the elementary school kids. And during the Christmas season I have Christmas drives where I partner with the Boys & Girls Club where I have a big, fancy limousine go pick up some kids from the Boys & Girls Club, and I give them gift cards for the mall to go shopping. But the thing is, you can't spend the

money on yourself. You have to spend the money on your family, your loved ones, your friends. The idea is to instill in these kids the thought about giving back. It's something I've been doing since I've been in the league, something I enjoy doing.

**J.B.:** I was also reading about how you went to South Africa to do some coaching in 2005.

**M.C.:** Yeah, my wife and I had a chance to go to Africa and mainly do a basketball clinic, but it was community work also, which I was definitely keen on. Just seeing how the world is, not just the United States. I mean, we think we have it bad here in the United States but when you go to these Third World countries, when you go to these different townships like we did in South Africa, you can see what's really going

on. Especially with Africa, with the HIV and AIDS rates up so high, and just to see the spirit on these people's faces, even though they're so sick, but you can't tell because of how they carry themselves and their demeanor. It was a great trip. And I also had a chance to go to Spain last month where I had a camp and talked about health awareness. The NBA does a great job with doing that and I was pretty much just honored to be able to go.

**M.C.:** Who are other players in the NBA who you admire for their work off the court and in the community?

M.C.: The one who really got me going even before I got into the league was Dikembe Mutombo. He's from Africa (Congo) and you see him building hospitals and going back home to Africa and donating. It's easy to donate

money or to write a check but to actually be there physically and actually really help out and show your face and go to these different places and talk to these kids, I think that goes a much longer way than to simply write a check.

**J.B.:** So, was Mutombo a mentor of yours?

**M.C.:** Yes. He was a guy who I tried to pattern my foundation after. He's become an NBA ambassador, and everybody in the NBA who has a foundation attributes a lot to Dikembe because we see how hard he's been working since day one.

**J.B.:** Does anyone else around the league jump out to you as doing really important community work as well?

**M.C.:** A lot of the NBA guys have foundations, but a lot of it probably flies under the radar. Like myself, which is





STOP SINGING

Douglas Bishop

You cannot be singing for me man  
are you thinking there is some jive in that tune  
where the street is jumping up to meet you  
smack in the face man  
didn't you see the way her blood ran down in to the gutter  
and mixed with the gasoline  
this is the new way to move man  
what do you think you believe  
when there's nothing to wait for  
look in the trash cans  
look at the gulls hanging a round the dumpster in back of Church Street  
look at the loading dock where the diesel is idling  
there's no singing there man  
no restitution to pay for the day  
that still has me out in front of the seven eleven  
panning for quarters  
man you think you know where I live  
but you have no idea  
under the overpass  
in between the edges of the city  
in between the lines  
of your mortgage payment and your credit card number  
the days are not measured the way you're going man  
you have to turn it inside out  
go upside down  
because there's another bite  
another need  
that doesn't have anything to do with that singing  
you have no clue  
what the dawn brings after being on the pavement all night  
survival doesn't have a rosy-pink color  
this is the edge of the street man  
and it's ready to cut you out  
because you have no idea what's coming down right now  
so stop that stupid singing  
and get to work



Poems may be submitted to: Marc D. Goldfinger,  
76 Unity Ave. Belmont MA, 02478

or email: [sparechangepoetry@gmail.com](mailto:sparechangepoetry@gmail.com). SCN cannot return poetry  
submissions, and authors will be contacted only if their poems are published.

**Every Thursday**  
Squawk Coffeehouse, 9 pm  
1555 Mass Ave., Cambridge  
Open mike for poets and musicians.

**Every Saturday**  
Out of the Blue Gallery, 8 pm  
106 Prospect St., Cambridge  
\$3-5 suggested donation.  
671- 354-5287

**Every Sunday**  
Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam, 7 pm  
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge  
\$5. 671- 547-0759

**Every Monday**  
Out of the Blue Gallery, 8 pm  
106 Prospect St., Cambridge  
\$4 suggested donation.  
617-354-5287

**Every Wednesday**  
Boston Poetry Slam, 8 pm  
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave.,  
Cambridge  
\$3. 21+. 617-354-2685

**Second Thursday of Every Month**  
Tapestry of Voices, 6:30 pm  
Borders, 10 School St., Boston  
Free. 617-557-7188

**Second Tuesday of Every Month**  
Newton Free Library, 7 pm  
330 Homer St. 617-796-1360

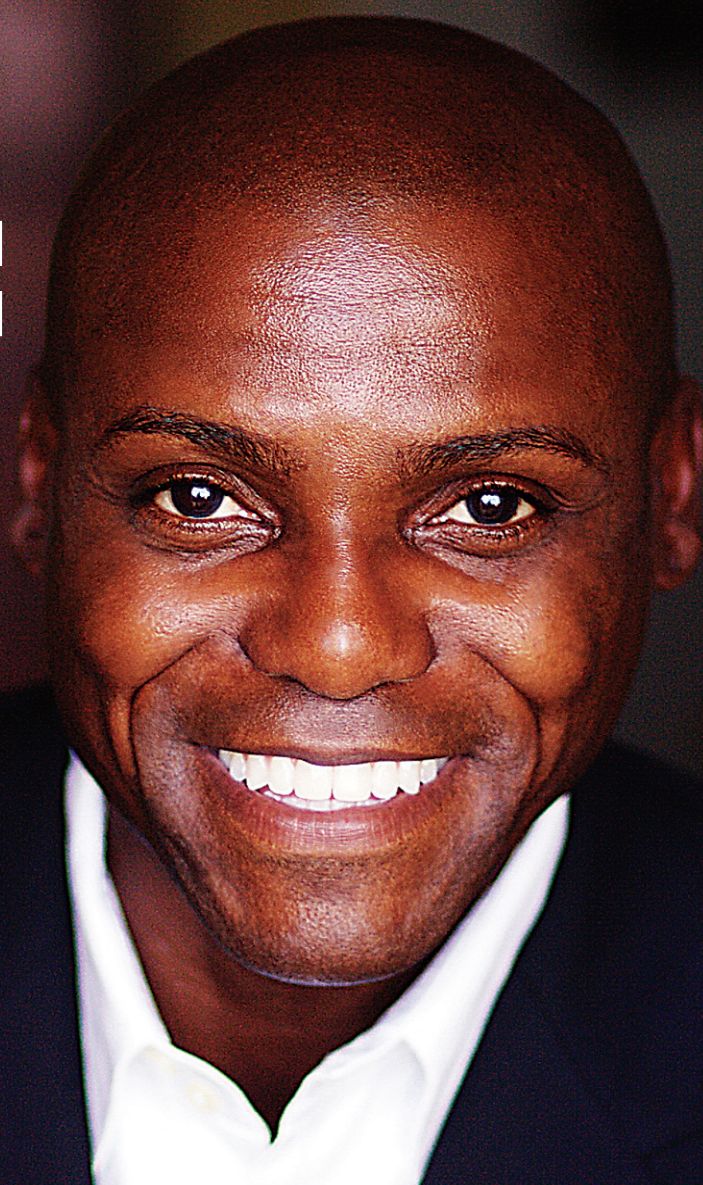
**Third Saturday of Every Month**  
Boston Haiku Society meeting,  
2-6 pm  
Kaji Aso Studio,  
40 St. Stephen St., Boston  
\$3. 617-247-1719

*Poetry event listings may be  
submitted to  
[sceditor@homelessempowerment.org](mailto:sceditor@homelessempowerment.org)*



# Carl Lewis:

## life beyond nine Olympic gold medals



Adam Sennott  
Spare Change News

He competed in five Olympic Games, won nine gold medals and was named Olympian of the century by Sports Illustrated. Now Carl Lewis is setting his sights on an even bigger goal: to help end hunger. In an exclusive interview with SNS he explains why.

From athletic diets to fighting hunger. It might not seem an obvious fit, but for Carl Lewis it felt like a logical move. Upon finishing his sports career, the nine time Olympic gold medalist who competed in track and field decided to use his fame for greater goals. In 2009, he became a so-called 'Goodwill Ambassador' to the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations.

His aims, he declared at the time, were to change the global attitude towards how poverty affects the world and help poorer countries become more self-sufficient.

Lewis, who won his last Olympic gold medal in 1996, says he realized he had to take action while on a trip to India. He wondered how the locals could cope with all the poverty visible on the street.

"I was talking to the general manager of the hotel, and I said 'You know, you

drive past these people every day and they're hungry, and they're homeless, and they don't have anything'," Lewis says. "'How do you do it, and just keep driving?' And the guy said, 'Well you get used to it.'"

"That just kind of hit me. How can we get used to that? We should be doing something about that. And then it wasn't long after that, that I was approached by FAO to be an ambassador, and I said: 'absolutely.' Because, how can we have an attitude in our country, or in our world where we say, 'oh I will get used to it,' and just step over it and keep going. It just shouldn't happen."

Lewis' experience in India made him realize a lot of work needs to be done to change people's perceptions about poverty and hunger. He also realized that his incredibly successful athletic career could help to achieve some of that change.

"Well, people listen," said Lewis of the affect his athletic success has had on his fight against hunger. "I think that there are a couple of things. Number one, obviously, the fame, it brings people to the party, and that's a great thing that the hard work and dedication did."

### Credibility

Lewis feels that his life experience as a professional sportsman has shaped the

way he looks at the world. His athletic career allowed him to travel around the world and visit countries most people never get the opportunity to see.

"I have seen the world, you know. I have been to the smallest places in Vietnam, and I have been to India, and I have been to the wealthiest countries in the world; the United States, and I have seen poverty and hunger here in this country."

"I think that it brings some credibility. It's kind of funny in a way that all of those accolades also took me to Poona, India, which is one of the poorest places you could imagine, or way out into the country side outside of Ho Chi Minh City. So I think that it's more than just the fame. Everybody knows who I am and they will listen because they saw me on television. I got the opportunity to go to those places and see hunger and see how it affects people. And also to see how it affects us, even in a developed nation."

Armed with this awareness, Lewis has set out to open people's eyes to the realities of hunger. He hopes, he says, to change the global attitudes about how poverty affects the world.

"The biggest thing for me is global attitude. I know that I but up against people a lot in America about their 'Well, I have mine' attitude. Whether

it is welfare or food stamps here in the United States, [the attitude is one of] 'Well I have mine, and the poor should just work, they're just lazy', says Lewis.

"But actually, the reality is that even a lot of people that think they have it all are one paycheck away or one step away [from being homeless]."

"A lot of developing countries haven't been treated well because ultimately, in a lot of cases, they're actually being used. They're resources are being used, and they've been abused and then dumped."

"What I would like is our global attitude to change. A world where we say: 'You know what, if one person's hungry in the world, we're all hungry. And if I am the wealthiest person, then I care about it.'"

"There are so many very wealthy people doing wonderful things, like the Gates Foundation and Bill Clinton. Bill Gates is the wealthiest man in the world and he works tirelessly to do things for other people. I wish that everyone would take his lead, that wealthy people would take his lead or Warren Buffett's lead, or take the lead of Bill Clinton, or take the lead of people who are really giving back. That's how we solve the problem, its attitude adjustment."



## Self-sufficient

According to FAO estimates, there were over 1 billion undernourished individuals in 2009. Although Lewis realizes that changing people's perception about how poverty affects the world would be a big step in the fight against hunger, he also acknowledges that more needs to be done, such as working to make poorer countries more self-sufficient.

"I think one of the things we need to do — and what the FAO is focusing more on — is helping people to become self-sufficient. Instead of dropping food all the time, we need to think: how can we help them grow their own food? How can we help them develop their own areas?"

"I think that's the biggest issue, and it is a huge benefit for everyone in the world if countries can become more self-sufficient. Instead of giving them food, give them feed and fertilizer. Then all of a sudden we are helping them become self-sufficient, and then we can move on to the next group, and then just check back up."

## MDG Champion

Earlier this year the UN called upon Lewis to help promote the Millennium Development Goals by becoming an 'MDG Champion.' In September, he attended a high profile summit in New York, where even the likes of Bill and Hillary Clinton were present. Whilst the experts discussed the progress of the MDG's in the run up to their deadline in 2015, Lewis gained an insight in the enormity of the tasks.

"I think the biggest thing is that we are marching, but we're not marching fast enough because there is still a billion people hungry," says Lewis. "But it was an honor to be a part of it, sitting in meetings and discussing issues, not just making appearances but actually discussing issues and ideas that can make a difference."

"We have to make the unobtainable goals obtainable. That's what the Millennium Conference showed me. It is creating information for the general public that didn't understand the issues. And I think that people came out of that summit saying: 'I want to be more involved', because now they have a clear understanding of what we're doing."

## The strength to stand up

Although today Lewis is using his knowledge and influence in the fight against hunger, he has always believed in standing up for what is right. During his career, Lewis fought to make his sport professional, and wasn't afraid to talk about athletes wages, or even drugs. He says he acquired the strength to stand up for these many causes from his parents.



USA's Carl Lewis reacts to receiving the gold medal for the men's long jump, in Olympic Stadium July 29, 1996. Lewis won the event with a jump of 8.5 meters and collects his fourth gold medal in Olympic long jump competition. Photo: REUTERS/Gary Hershorn GHM/CMC

Lewis was born in Birmingham, Alabama (USA) in 1961. His parents were heavily involved in the American civil rights movement and even considered Dr. Martin Luther King a family friend.

"When I was being raised my parents were heavily involved in the civil rights movement. They marched down the streets and they were involved in the hosing. Fortunately for them they had a car during the bus strike, so they were drivers, not walkers," said Lewis. "They also had friends there, Dr. King was a family friend."

"What they taught me first of all is that education is important, because you have to have the knowledge to make decisions. Secondly, do what you think it right. Do what you believe in, and when you do that you're going to have criticism, you're going to be attacked because a lot of people are not willing to do what's right."

Although Lewis was just a child during the height of the civil rights movement, the influence of his parents would have a lasting effect on both his personal and professional life.

"When I came into my sport I realized that amateur athletics was technically glorified slavery. [It was] wealthy

people playing games with people, and they got all of the money. The athletes had no control because they were broke. They went where they were told to go, they did what they were told to do."

"So my idea was that, if I am an athlete and a professional basketball, baseball, or whatever player gets paid to do his job, why shouldn't we be? So therefore I really fought on that issue."

## Drugs

Similarly, he says he fought to get performance enhancing substances out of the sport. He says: "When it came to the drug issue, I realized that was going to take our sport down. But the best thing out of all of it is that here we are — 14 years after my retirement and my last Olympics — and people still talk about those issues."

"Most of the people walk up to me and they say, 'Oh you won nine gold medals, but gosh, you're the one that was one of the leaders that made the sport professional, or (you were one of the ones that talked about drugs.) They don't just sit there and recite out my races. They actually remember what is relevant."

## Carl Lewis Foundation

Along with his own legacy, Lewis' parents also had an effect on his future charity work. Growing up Lewis watched his parents start the track club and become involved in many aspects of the community. That influence translated into his many charitable contributions during his career, and today the Carl Lewis Foundation, which focuses on physical education, family involvement and the arts.

"The foundation for me was just an extension of what I believed in during my entire career," Lewis explains. "I was involved in charity work throughout my professional life and then when I retired I had more time to start my own foundation." The aim was to help "kids who were not staying active and healthy." He tries to get children back into physical exercise and at the same time involve their families to convince them of the needs for sports and a healthy lifestyle.

## Veganism

Hand in hand with his charitable approach, Lewis decided to embrace veganism. At the time, he made many headlines with his seemingly controversial decision to start eating a vegan diet whilst being a top class athlete.

Looking back, he says "I did it for one specific reason. As a long jumper, weight is a huge issue. You can imagine trying to carry this weight through the air. So, at the time I ate everything I wanted, but I kind of starved myself to get my weight down, and I realized that was an unhealthy diet. So when I talked to people and did some research, they advised me to go to a vegan diet."

Off the the effect becoming a vegan had on his athletic career, he says: "All of my personal bests came while I was on this diet at 30 years old. But, it is a challenge to the average person. I was fortunate enough to have a cook. The only problem that I had was that once she started cooking, once I became a vegan, the house was dirty because she was cooking all day."

## Educating the public

If anything, his career as a changemaker has convinced Lewis of the importance of changing people's perception towards issues of poverty, homelessness and hunger. He believes that in order to create change, the wider public needs to be educated on the issues; something street papers around the world pride themselves on.

"I think that we need to focus on getting information out to everyone. We need to make sure we create the opportunities to reach out to all."

Street News Service ©

[www.streetnewsservice.org](http://www.streetnewsservice.org)



# Voices From The Streets

Voices from the Streets — a forum for those whose voices are too often ignored. From narratives to opinion to advice, these writers portray a unique perspective on life that might otherwise go unnoticed. Below, find that turning an ear towards those normally silenced opens the door to understanding and relating to those who have faced life on the street.

## My Spare Change News Story



**Marc D. Goldfinger**  
Spare Change News

It was March, 1993. I don't remember the precise date. My wife and I were homeless and strung out on heroin, getting sick (withdrawal), and out of money. I was at Porter Square shaking a cup and trying to come up with an idea so we could get fix money to, "get well."

My wife, Sascha, came out of the subway, walked up to me and said that she had seen an older woman selling a newspaper at Davis Square. It was called Spare Change. She asked the woman what it was about and she said, "you go down to the Old Cambridge Baptist Church and in the basement there's an office called the Homeless Empowerment Project. If you go in, they'll sign both of you up to sell the papers and give you ten copies each. Free."

"When you finish selling them for one dollar a piece, bring the money back to the office and buy more papers for ten cents per paper. So, like, if you each kept five dollars, you could still get fifty papers with the other five dollars."

That sounded really good to me so we headed down to the Homeless Empowerment Project office and signed up. We went back to Porter Square and split up and sold those papers, bought one bag of heroin and split it, and went back and picked up 100 papers in total.

That was the beginning of my career with Spare Change News. It was called simply Spare Change back then. It seemed like the papers literally flew out of our hands back in those days. It was a new item and had gotten big press by the major papers and everybody seemed to want to know what it was about so they sold easy.

Today, the paper has been around for a while. The first issue came out in May of 1992 and in the beginning the paper came out once a month. Nowadays vendors really have to work to sell the papers, as they cost the vendor twenty-five cents a piece and still sell for a dollar. That's what they call inflation.

I continued to sell the paper. My primary motive back then was to get enough money for my drug of no choice. I call it my "drug of no choice" because it took away all of my choices. But suddenly I realized that I was no longer begging for money. I was working! It was the first honest work I had done since 1988, almost 5 years prior.

Selling Spare Change News built up my self-esteem. Sometimes a person would pass me

while I was selling the paper and say, in a nasty tone, "Why don't you get a job?"

I would respond, as politely and quickly as I could, "This is a job. It's the same as selling the Boston Globe or the Boston Herald. You don't tell them to get a job, do you?"

I would keep a few back issues, from previous months, on my person and offer them free to the person who "dissed" me and say, "Why don't you take a look at this free to see what we're about?"

I began to enjoy selling the paper. Spare Change News even published three of my poems. Let me tell you, I sold that issue with pride! I was always a writer. I started writing in junior high school but my addiction to heroin took my writing away. At first I thought it enhanced my writing, but heroin has a big lie that it tells anyone who uses it. That's part of the illness of addiction.

Then I put myself in the hospital to detox. I had to do it over and over again because, when I got out of the hospital, I didn't realize how much I had to change to stay clean of drugs. Alcohol addiction is the same thing, just legal.

Finally, in March of 1994, I began to sustain a long period of abstinence from heroin and all other drugs. I didn't have a hard time staying off of other drugs because nothing talked to me like the opiates. Most people have one particular drug that speaks to them the most. With some it's cocaine, some alcohol, some speed, etc. Very few people are what they call poly-substance abusers.

A poly-substance abuser is someone who will do anything and don't care what it is; they just want to blow their minds with something. Most people are mono-substance abusers, people who are hooked on a particular drug. That doesn't mean they won't do something else to get high. It just means that they favor the one drug, like me with opiates, so much that they wait until they can get that drug.

I used to turn down other drugs. I was waiting for what I called "home base." Heroin. But back to "clean-time." My clean date was March 12th, 1994 and by September of '94, I became the editor of Spare Change News. I went to support groups every day and therapy once a week.

It was difficult at first but, the longer I stayed away from drugs, the better my life became. Spare Change News played a giant part in my recovery. First, Spare Change empowered me by giving me an honest job. Then it gave me my

*continued on next page*

## tales from the curb

## Comfortably Numb Part 2



**James Shearer**  
Spare Change News

Earlier this year I wrote about how it seemed as though people had become numb to homelessness. As Christmas approaches, I think about it even more so. Recently, as I was waiting to speak to a class of 7th graders, something I do every year at this time, I started to read the latest issue of Spare Change. I came upon two articles that really struck a chord with me, Mark Goldfinger's One Day at the Mall, which was about three well to do snobbish ladies who were overreacting to a homeless man catching a few winks at the Mall, and Norman Watne's, Jessica's story, which was about a young homeless girl who life was changed by an act of kindness.

I see Mark's story wherever I go. Some poor homeless man or woman will be sitting in front of a store minding their business or trying to keep warm. Then along comes some miserable idiot that doesn't like what they see and runs to the store security guard or a mall cop. Then of course the overpaid wanna-be-rent-a-cop comes over and does the one thing that they can't do at home, throw their weight around and makes the person move or get out, and then goes back to his post and brags to their other rent-a-cop buddies about the dangerous homeless person he just dealt with.

Real police officers most of the time don't harass the homeless, they have more important things to do. I'm amazed at the way some people react to the homeless, you'd think they were the most dangerous people in the world. That's a question, believe it or not, that I get when I speak, mostly from middle class kids who live in the 'Burbs' and watch too many cop dramas, or listen to their even more uneducated parents who also watch way too much TV.

The fact is, folks, the homeless are no more dangerous than anyone else, even less so. You're more likely to be harmed from your next door neighbor than from a homeless person. Don't be leery of the person with the cup, be more leery of the banker investing your money. I have yet to hear of a homeless person shooting up a Mall because he's having a bad day, shooting babies laying on their mother's lap, accepting bribes for liquor licenses or bilking people out of their life savings. All they are trying to do is live, no, "surviving" is a more apt term.

Norman's story was even more puzzling. Why don't we see more acts of kindness that the young homeless girl received? Imagine putting your own business at stake to help someone less fortunate than you. Not only giving them a job, but letting them stay at your place of business at night so they don't have to be forced to do what many homeless kids are forced to do to survive. Bet those ladies at the mall don't know about that. How many security guards would leave the doors open after closing on a cold night so someone wouldn't have to freeze to death on the streets? I remember a time when they did. I remember when the T- Stations were left open at night so people would have somewhere to keep warm.

I hear people say that the reason that doesn't happen anymore is because now there are just too many. There may be some truth to that, but that's a story for another day. I tend to think ignorance plays a part, and take my word for it, there's plenty of it to go around when it comes to homelessness. People who just don't know what they don't know. Many still believe in many of the myths about homelessness, that there all drunks, or crazy, and of course dangerous, and many are hypocrites. It's mainly the politically correct liberal trust fund babies who complain tirelessly about how the government doesn't do enough about the homeless, but god forbid if one of them neds to go in your local mall to stay warm or catch a few winks. Whatever happened to random acts of kindness?



# Rev. Steven Bonsey Speaks with Spare Change Vendor, Michael Simpson.

**Michael Simpson**  
Spare Change News

There are many churches in the surrounding the Boston area that help people, one of these churches in particular stands out is The Cathedral Church of St. Paul.

A major reason this church stands out, is because of a man named Rev. Steven Bonsey. He has helped many people that are less fortunate for many years. One of the reasons Rev. Bonsey has been able to achieve so much within the community is because he had a great role model to look up to all his life.

Rev. Steven Bonsey grew up in Honolulu, Hawaii with his father, who worked at a church behind their house. He grew up in the Episcopal Church. His father was an Episcopal priest. This church was in a low income, immigrant neighborhood in Honolulu so Rev. Bonsey's father helped these people with the basic services they needed. His father was involved with the immigrants and offered specific services for them. There was a medical health care clinic for people to go to when they were sick.

Rev. Bonsey says, "It was in my bones to basically help people who are in need. That was what church was

supposed to be about helping out the poor community."

Rev. Bonsey has had the privilege to work in many churches in the local community, as well as in different cities and at universities. "I'm very happy to be able to serve there at St. Paul's Cathedral Episcopal Church in Boston, Mass," Rev Bonsey said.

Rev Bonsey also explained that 100 years ago, when St. Paul's became the Cathedral Church, Bishop Lawrence dedicated it to be a house of prayer for all people. The church financed and rented out pews so people could come, and there was a fee to have the privilege to sit in the church. Bishop Lawrence was so dedicated to having this church become a Cathedral Church that he had carpenters come to the church and remove the doors on the box of the pews. This symbolically showed that the pews would be open to all people.

At the time the area was had become home to many working families. There were also men living in boarding houses around the community, and children living on the streets. However, the church doors were opened to them. Bishop Lawrence wanted this church to be opened to the poor, the immigrants, and the newcomers in the city of Boston.

"This has always been what St Paul's has been about," said Rev. Bonsey. "In recent years we have especially had a partnership with the Common Cathedral, which is the Ecclesia Ministries. The Ministries specialized in working with people who were on the streets, homeless, and who had recently found housing."

Rev. Bonsey also spoke of the Monday Lunch program, which started 27 years ago on a temporary basis. The program is still in existence today.

"The worship was outdoors, in The Boston Common. They, the ministries, have had our building they do their outreach on the streets," said Rev. Bonsey. "We have had a partnership with the ministries for 27 years. The Cathedral has had a Monday Lunch Program. It started 27 years ago, when many people came out of mental health facilities that where housed and there was a huge population of people on the streets."

"There were certain reasons why there were a lot of people living on the streets. We started this program on Monday's Lunch for anyone who wanted to come. We had volunteers from the suburbs to just come in and prepare, and serve the food to the guests. It was supposed to only be a temporary situation, but 27 years later the Monday

Lunch is still helping many people in need. We thought this was only going to be a temporary thing with the homeless living on the streets, now today in 2010 there are more people who are in need, especially because of the economy."

According to Bonsey, over the past several years the Monday Lunch Program has become so large that more people were needed to help prepare and serve the food to the guests.

"Also, in the last few years with people losing their homes and have to live in the streets, in just in a few years the Monday Lunch Program has tripled in the number of people who come to the lunch," said Rev. Bonsey. "We needed more help because the number of people showing up for the lunch; we needed more people to prepare, and serve the guests. Every Monday before the lunch we have a meeting called, 'The Leadership Circle.' It's open to anyone."

One of the many observations Rev. Bonsey has made during his time working with the Monday Lunch Program, is that many of the members of the homeless community who utilize the event don't fit into the usual stereotypes of homelessness.

"We find often there are people without homes and on the streets for vari-

*SIMPSON continued on page 12*

*SHEARER continued from previous page*

voice back on the printed page.

Funny thing, I found that I could write better without heroin, thereby exposing the BIG LIE. I have to tell you though, when I get writer's block, my mind still says to me, "Marc, if you take a shot of heroin, you'll get your writing voice back." My drug of no choice is still chattering away in my monkey mind. Unfortunately, Sascha didn't make it. It wasn't her fault. The illness killed her before she could get clean.

Addiction is an illness that never leaves. It goes into remission only. To stay clean I have to pay attention to my physical, mental, and spiritual condition. I try to keep my body in good shape. I'm getting older, almost 65, so that's no mean feat. I still go to a therapist regularly and have support groups that I attend at least five days a week. And, last, but not least, I have a God

of my understanding in my life. What does that mean?

I believe that something I can't define keeps me off drugs. Call it God, call it anything you like. All I can say is that, it works. And I have Spare Change News to thank for starting my recovery by empowering me. The Homeless Empowerment Project gave me a chance when no one else would. I guess, you could say I owe Spare Change News my life.

As you can see, I'm still here. I'm writing this on Thanksgiving and my daughter, granddaughter and my son-in-law are having dinner with my wife, Mary Esther and me. It's a miracle. And, dear reader, I couldn't do it without you either. Thank you. I hope you stick around.

Marc D. Goldfinger is a formerly homeless vendor who is now housed. He can be reached at [junkietroll@yahoo.com](mailto:junkietroll@yahoo.com)

Please be sure sure that you  
purchase copies of  
**Spare Change News**  
only from

**authorized vendors**  
who wear

**Blue 2010 badges.**

Anyone else may  
be running a scam.

Vendors are also not  
allowed to solicit donations for  
**Spare Change News**  
or any outside organization.



*SIMPSON continued from page 11*

ous reasons who have great skills, gifts, and capabilities in the communities," said Rev. Bonsey. "These people are receiving services, so there has been a positive response to Monday lunches."

Rev Bonsey also works with staff members, Rev. Cristina Rathbone, Kathy McAdams.

"These people who are on the street or were on the street at one time or another, their lives do change with The Leadership Circle and other things at St. Paul's church that we provide," said Rev Bonsey. "Many people have gotten housing and they are in a different place in their lives. When we do follow-up with these people, it takes many forms with different people, but the people in our work who are choosing the inside church at St. Paul's, they have

moved to leadership in their communities and have moved to our staff. For example; Chris North, who was one of our guests at one time at Monday lunch lived in the streets, has been involved with the Leadership Circle at Monday Lunch and is now the Director of this specific program and he is also a staff member."

Continued Rev. Bonsey, "One thing that is very important to St. Paul's is that, for the Monday lunch program, our doors are open up to anybody. We try to have opportunities for these people to step through these doors and get the guidance they need and deserve. Sometimes there has to be the right invitation. Today is Veteran's Day, and for the first time we here at the Cathedral and have an event to honor these veterans."

According to Rev Bonsey, veterans

take up a large portion of the Monday Lunch Program. Many of these veterans are disabled or live on the streets or in shelters.

"This event happened because we noticed that half of the people that come to the lunch program on Mondays are veterans," said Rev. Bonsey. "They either live on the streets or in shelters in our neighborhoods. The veterans have a lot of pride in their service and many of them are disabled."

"These veterans that come to the lunch helped and used their leadership skills to organize this service on this very important day. These men and women were the ones who said the gospel — they shaped the event. They stood up and told their story, with them telling their story they are able to have some dignity and that can make a difference. We try to make no judgments

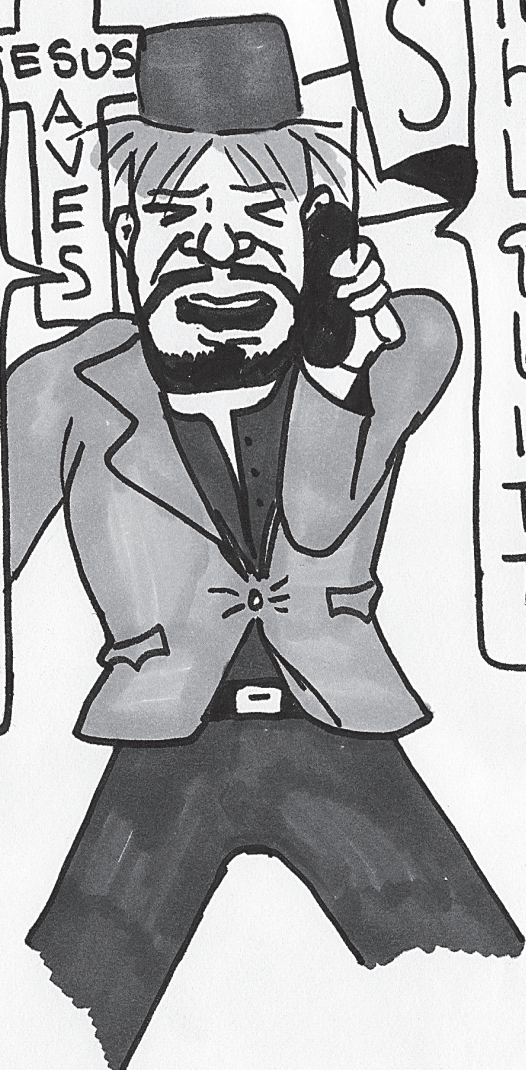
about how they respond in what they do in their lives."

St. Paul's also helps their neighboring restaurant, The Black Seed, with a thanksgiving dinner every year at the church.

"Our church found space. We serve lunch on Monday, but on Friday afternoons several hundred, mostly men, come and say their Friday prayer. St. Paul's has a really good relationship with them and one thing we do together every year now is, the Thanksgiving dinner," Rev. Bonsey said. "On thanksgiving the workers at the Black Seed, they cook many turkeys and all the trimmings for our guests. This is one thing that the Muslim's and the Christian's are doing together to serve the communities."

## Homer's "Vagrants at Large"

I've got to call that lawyer  
1-800-The Law  
Hello!... Hello!  
I'M callin' Mr.  
I.R. Schyster!  
Is he in?!?!  
It's 'bout the  
Luddnott situation!



It's urgent I talk to  
him!... This is Homer L.  
Luddnott!... When he  
gets in, have him call,  
617-555-5555!  
It's urgent he call. ASAP!  
This is Homer L. Luddnott!...  
Thank you for your time!..

...well!... that was  
easy to do... I just hope  
I ain't a bad joke!...  
It wouldn't surprise  
me if it is!!!!....

Good  
LUCK,  
Homer!

My buddy...  
he's 'bout  
to be a  
Rich  
Nameless  
Person..

CAN YOU  
SPARE  
SOME  
CHANGE?!

... CONTINUED ...